

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRETOR 03753 291211Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 /084 W
 -----001605 291346Z /43

R 291138Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8224
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 3753

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT WA
SUBJ: REPRESENTATION ON NAMIBIA BY NNF

1. ON JULY 27 FOUR OFFICIALS OF THE NAMIBIA NATIONAL
FRONT (NNF) CAME TO THE EMBASSY AND REQUESTED A MEETING
WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONTACT GROUP. THE NEXT
DAY THE DCM TALKED TO THE NNF LEADERS EXPLAINING THAT
IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE TO CONVENE
A BROADER MEETING AS THEY HAD REQUESTED. THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL OF THE NNF, K. H. CONRADI, PRESENTED A WRITTEN
PETITION FROM THE PARTY TO THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS.
THE PETITION, WHICH THE EMBASSY WILL FORWARD
SEPARATELY, PROTESTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
NEW DAMARA COUNCIL AS A VIOLATION OF THE SAG'S
COMMITMENT TO THE CONTACT GROUP TO SET ASIDE THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRETOR 03753 291211Z

TURNHALLE CONSTITUTION. THE PETITION WARNED THAT
IF NO MOVE WAS MADE TO COUNTERACT THE SOUTH
AFRICAN MANEUVERS, "THERE WOULD BE NO ALTERNATIVE
OTHER THAN TO ORGANIZE A NATION-WIDE BOYCOTT" OF
THE ELECTIONS.

2. CONRADI ALSO VERBALLY PRESENTED OTHER NNF

"DEMANDS" INCLUDING:

- AN EXPLANATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REACTION TO "THE PROTEST OF THE WESTERN POWERS ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL."
- SEPARATE MEETINGS BY NNF REPRESENTATIVES WITH SECRETARY VANCE AS WELL AS THE OTHER WESTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS.
- PROVISION TO THE NNF OF A FULL TEXT OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S DISCUSSIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA CONCERNING THE TURNHALLE CONSITITUTION.

3. CONRADI SAID THE NNF WAS DISTURBED THAT THE WESTERN POWERS WERE MEDIATING BETWEEN SWAPO, THE UN, SOUTH AFRICA AND TURNHALLE AND EXCLUDING THE NNF. HE SAID THE NNF OBJECTED TO BEING TREATED ONLY AS AN "INTERESTED PARTY." CONRADI SAID THE NNF DEMANDS THAT IT BE CONSULTED RATHER THAN SIMPLY BRIEFED ON THE TALKS.

4. ADDRESSING WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE GROUP'S MAIN CONCERN AT PRESENT, THE DCM RESPONDED THAT, WHILE WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE AS LEGAL THE EXERCISE OF S.A. AUTHORITY IN NAMIBIA, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DAMARA COUNCIL DID NOT CONSTITUTE INSTALLATION OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT FOR NAMIBIA AS ENVISIONED BY THE TURNHALLE CONSITITUTION. THE PURPOSE OF THE INITIATIVE OF THE FIVE WAS TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR A FREE AND FAIR

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PRETOR 03753 291211Z

ELECTORAL PROCESS. IF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DAMARA COUNCIL PROVIDED UNFAIR ADVANTAGE TO THE TURNHALLE GROUP, THE NNF COULD BRING THE MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONTEMPLATED TRANSITIONAL ADMINISTRATION WHOSE FUNCTION WILL BE TO CORRECT SUCH A SITUATION. THE DCM ASSURED THE GROUP THAT THE FIVE ARE ENERGETICALLY CONTINUING THEIR EFFORTS AND UNDERTOOK TO REPORT THE NNF VISIT TO THE OTHER FOUR WESTERN MISSIONS AND PROVIDE THEM COPIES OF THE NNF PETITION.

5. LATER, CONRADI BROUGHT UP WITH THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THE SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE NNF TO BALANCE "UN AND US" FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SWAPO. CONRADI HAD RAISED THIS SUBJECT EARLIER IN A CONVERSATION IN WINDHOEK. THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR REITERATED THAT THE USG COULD NOT CONSIDER SUCH A PROPOSAL.

6. THE NNF WAS FORMED IN APRIL THIS YEAR AS A COMBINATION OF ELEMENTS OF THE OLD NAMIBIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL AND THE NAMIBIAN NATION CONVENTION. IT

IS ONE OF THE "INTERESTED PARTIES" BRIEFED IN
WINDHOEK BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE IN MAY
AND JUNE. IT CONSISTS OF TEN POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS,
INCLUDING SWANU AND SEVERAL DAMARA GROUPS. ESTIMATES
OF ITS CURRENT POPULAR SUPPORT GENERALLY VARY BETWEEN
10 AND 20 PERCENT.

7. COMMENT: WE WILL CONSULT WITH THE OTHER FOUR MISSIONS
ABOUT RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONTACT GROUP ON WHETHER AND
HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND TO THE NNF APPROACH.
BOWDLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DOCUMENTS, NATIONALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PRETOR03753
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770272-0723
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977074/aaaaadfu.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a6320467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1809554
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPRESENTATION ON NAMIBIA BY NNF
TAGS: PINT, WA, (CONRADI, K H)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a6320467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009